Encroached forests land

†652. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the forests land encroached and used for non-forest purposes since 1995-96 in the country and the land evacuated from encroachment and acquired for afforestation purposes;

(b) the total forest land encroached again and utilised for non-forest purposes and the total land evicted again out of that; and

(c) the State-wise details of forest land encroachments from 1995-96 to 1999-2000?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a) to (c) The subject forest being in the concurrent list the role of the Central Government is more related to policy matters whereas the responsibility of its actual management and protection vests with the State Governments. As such data on extent of encroachments are not compiled and collated in this Ministry. This Ministry has approved diversion of 152956 ha forest land for implementation of 3644 projects since 1995-96 to 1999-2000. The State-wise details of forest area diverted are given in the statement.

Statement

Diversion of Forest Land approved by the Central Government during the period from 1995-96 *to* 1999-2000

States/UTs	No. of Approved Projects	Forest land diverted in ha.
1. Andhra Pradesh	44	4795
2. Arunachal Pradesh	8	174

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

States/UTs	No. of Approved Projects	Forest land diverted in ha.
3. Assam	33	1514
4. Bihar	51	2821
5. Goa	30	421
6. Gujarat	168	21437
7. Haryana	138	378
8. Himachal Pradesh	1064	100
9. Karnataka	111	19835
10. Kerala	18	29889
11. Madhya Pradesh	223	25453
12. Maharashtra	542	17832
13. Manipur	4	3
14. Mizoram	11	5616
15. Orissa	84	9293
16. Punjab	220	1788
17. Rajasthan	107	6982
18. Sikkim	3	23
19. Tamil Nadu	18	257
20. Tripura	25	1795
21. Uttar Pradesh	624	2162
22. West Bengal	39	293
23. A & N Island	2	68
24. D & N Haveli	77	27
TOTAL:	3644	152956

Forest cover in the country

653. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the forest cover in the country during the 6th, 7th, 8th and 9th Five Year Plan periods respectively, with State-wise break-up; and